



Jane Dee Hull  
Governor

# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Richard W. Tobin II  
Acting Director

October 1, 2002

Dr. Peter Kozelka  
US Environmental Protection Agency (WTR-2)  
Monitoring and Assessment Office  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

CD received 10/02/02  
Hand copy received 10/18/02  
of comments on draft  
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prsr  
Start date

Dear Dr. Kozelka:

Attached is a compact diskette containing Arizona's *Status of Water Quality in Arizona 2002 Volumes I and II*, Arizona's integrated 305(b) assessment and 303(d) listing report, and the Assessment Database (ADB) with updated assessments of surface waters. These are being sent to fulfill requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Hard copies of the report, the technical support document, and delisting reports will be provided to Region IX by October 08, 2002. Methods used for this assessment are described in Chapter III of Volume I and fulfill requirements of Arizona's new Impaired Waters Identification Rule and federal regulations. Assessments also followed the *2002 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report Guidance* issued by EPA in November 2001. All readily available water quality data and information were reviewed for this assessment and all assessed waters were placed on one of the five-part EPA assessment list.

The 303(d) List of impaired waters is provided in Appendix D. The schedule and prioritization for completing all 303(d) Listed waters is provided in Chapter V.

To make the old Assessment Database fit the new assessment terms used in the federal guidance, the following modifications were made to Arizona's assessment entries into the ADB:

- "supporting" was converted to "attaining"
- "partially supporting" was converted to "inconclusive"
- "not supporting" was converted to "impaired"
- "not attainable" was converted to "not attaining."

A copy of Arizona's modified GIS reach-file system is being sent to Research Triangle Institute (RTI) for conversion to the new National Hydrography Dataset (NHD). It is anticipated that RTI will not only convert our current assessment, but will convert the entire Arizona reach-file system to NHD so that all future assessments will be made using the new hydrography system.

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All surface water assessments are linked by a unique Waterbody ID to Arizona's reach-files so that surface waters can be easily geographically located. This link will be easily transported to the NHD system.

Please contact Diana Marsh at (602) 207-4545 if you have any questions concerning this assessment or the database.

Sincerely,



Linda Taunt, Section Manager  
Hydrologic Support and Assessment Section

cc: Alexis Strauss, US EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, WTR-1, San Francisco, CA 94105  
Dave Smith, US EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, WTR-2, San Francisco, CA 94105  
Susan Holdsworth, US EPA Headquarters, 401 M Street SW, Mail 40537, Washington, DC 20460  
Karen Smith, Water Quality Director, ADEQ  
Diana Marsh, EPS, Watershed Management Unit, ADEQ